

Samuel Houston to Andrew Jackson, January 5, 1827, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

SAM HOUSTON TO JACKSON.

Washington, January 5, 1827.

. . . . Two kind favors have come to hand from you, one before you visited Ala' and one since your return. For each and both of them I thank you. Since the receipt of the last I have not seen Mr Randolph, but will on to day, when it will be *fit* to execute your suggestions. When I have seen him he has always been very polite, and enquiring for you with much interest. I presented you to him, which appeared to give him much pleasure. The business part of your letters shall be attended to, with pleasure so soon, as his election is over—which is daily expected.

Mr R. throughout the session has been truly dignified, and silent, and I have heard his friends say, that he will rest his claims to a reelection on his last winters acts, and says he will stand, or fall by them, which by the by, I deem manly and honorable. He has surely never been so much himself, as he is this session, he is amiable, kind, and courteous to all he meets with. Times have been squally at Richmond, but his friends here say he will be elected easily, and it will be over in a few days, from this time. The *powers that be here* , are greatly busied in trying to defeat his election, which will not help their cause in Virginia.

Of matters generally at this place I have written to my friend Dr Shelby, requesting him to let you see my *data* so far as they are assumed by me! Mr McKinly¹ has arrived, and your friends here deem him, a good, and *true* man for the country! So far as I can judge, I would

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say so too. Matters at this time here are surely favorable to a change in the administration, and as you will learn from my letter to Dr S. they are so elsewhere.

1 John McKinley, senator from Alabama 1826–1831.

The baseness, and corruption of the present incumbents of power, woud displace men of more talents than what they possess. I have heard of some *schemes of Clay in the west* , and have no doubt if he shoud by his agent Mr Hammond, prossecute them, but what he will most timously “meet retributive justice” and first from the hands, of an indignant and manly community!!! I have seen letters from Ohio, and Ky on *this* subject, and it was not until a week ago, that I knew of his Hellish designs; thro his base *pandors* , to be effected.

You will see that they dare not attempt or rather, execute; what their *foul* souls have conceived, Tho' the game *is* desperate. Like the wounded serpent, when they find that, their adversary, is beyond the reach of their fangs, they will be compell'd, in the anguish of disappointment to strike themselves; and of *their own* poison—perish! You loose no friends, but gain daily! It will be so until the great day of deliverance to our country arrives. Dr. Floyd of Va.² is a devoted friend of yours, and indeed, *almost all* the Crawford men. Govrs. Branch, and Holmes of N Carolina with many others direct me to present their warmest regards to you!

2 John Floyd, M C. 1817–1829.